

REMARKS

This paper is responsive to the Office Action dated December 28, 2007. All rejections and objections of the Examiner are respectfully traversed. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

The present amendments are intended to clarify and more precisely claim the invention. Support for the amendments to the claims herein is found at various specific places in the Specification as originally filed. For example, support for the claim amendments herein is found from line 9 on page 28 through line 17 on page 30 of the Specification as originally filed. No new matter has been added.

At paragraphs 2-3 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 5 and 7 for obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103, citing U.S. patent application publication 2003/0206619 of Curbow et al. ("Curbow et al.") in combination with U.S. patent number 7,076,533 of Knox et al. ("Knox et al."). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Curbow et al. disclose a delayed call dialing processing system that includes logic allowing a caller to delegate the task of monitoring presence information to detect when a callee is present to accept a call. In Fig. 3, Curbow et al. show a screen display of a buddy list that maintains names of users, user's last locale information, user's devices, etc., and whether the user is active or idle. The buddy list of Fig. 3 in Curbow et al. provides presence information to the user, and helps a user tell whether another user ("buddy") is available for a phone call or not, is in the office or elsewhere, they device they last used, whether they are currently active, and calendar information showing the current, or next scheduled appointment.

Knox et al. discloses a system for monitoring electronic mail and Website behavior of an electronic mail recipient. The Knox et al. system includes a mail enhancement server configured

to intercept all outgoing emails from a mail server, and that modifies each outgoing email to include a tracking code. The Knox et al. tracking code is embedded in an image call which in turn is also inserted into the outgoing email and into any hyperlinks in the email. The image call and tracking code of Knox et al. are used to detect when the recipient of the outgoing email has opened that email and to monitor whether the recipient has opened the email and/or clicked through on one or more of the hyperlinks in the email. Fig. 2 of Knox et al. shows a user interface through is displayed information regarding opening and sending of email messages, as well as information regarding Web browsing sessions.

Nowhere in the combination of Curbow et al. and Knox et al. is there disclosed or suggested any method or system providing information describing detected uses of communication software applications by remote computer system users to local computer system users, including:

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obtaining, by said awareness client application process on said local computer system, responsive to said presenting said awareness object associated with said remote computer system user, communication mode activity information regarding said remote computer system user, wherein said *communication mode activity information describes a use of each one of a plurality of different communication software applications by said remote computer system user, said plurality of different communication software applications including an electronic mail application, an internet protocol phone application, an electronic meeting application, and said awareness server application, wherein said communication mode activity information includes indications of actions performed by said remote computer system user, wherein said actions include printing and saving at least one electronic mail message and at least one attachment to said electronic mail message;*

detecting a selection of said awareness object associated with said remote computer user by said local computer system user; and

presenting, by said awareness client application process, said communication mode activity information regarding said remote computer system user in a display for said local computer system, *wherein said presenting includes displaying a plurality of icons, each one of said plurality of icons representing a corresponding one of said plurality of different communication*

software applications, and displaying only communication mode activity information associated with one of said communication software applications responsive to detecting said local computer system user hovering a cursor over one of said plurality of icons corresponding to said one of said communication software applications. (emphasis added)

as in the present independent claim 1. In contrast, the display generated by Curbow et al. shown in Fig. 3 shows only information regarding the location (reference number 310), access device (reference number 320), time since last active (reference number 330), and calendar appointment information (reference number 340) for each buddy, and the display in Fig. 2 of Knox et al. shows only information regarding opening and sending electronic mail messages, and information regarding Website browsing sessions. Accordingly, nothing in the combination of Curbow et al. and Knox et al. teaches or suggests any communication mode activity information that describes a use of each one of a plurality of different communication software applications by a remote computer system user, the plurality of different communication software applications including an electronic mail application, an internet protocol phone application, an electronic meeting application, and an awareness server application, wherein the communication mode activity information includes indications of actions performed by the remote computer system user, wherein the actions include printing and saving at least one electronic mail message and at least one attachment to said electronic mail message, and presenting the communication mode activity information regarding the remote computer system user, wherein the presenting includes displaying a plurality of icons, each one of the plurality of icons representing a corresponding one of the plurality of different communication software applications, and displaying only communication mode activity information associated with one of the communication software applications responsive to detecting the local computer system user hovering a cursor over one of

the plurality of icons corresponding to the one of said communication software applications, as in the present independent claim 1.

For the above reasons, Applicants respectfully urge that the combination of Curbow et al. and Knox et al. does not disclose or suggest all the features of the present independent claim 1. Accordingly, the combination of Curbow et al. and Knox et al. does not support a *prima facie* case of obviousness with regard to the present independent claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 103. As to claims 2, 3, 5 and 7, they each depend from claim 1, and are respectfully believed to be patentable over the combination of Curbow et al. and Knox et al. for at least the same reasons.

Dependent claim 6 also stands rejected for obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103, based on the combination of Curbow et al. and Knox et al. with United States patent application publication number 2005/0108232 of Rockey et al. ("Rockey et al."). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

As discussed above with reference to the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102, the teachings of Curbow et al. and Knox et al. do not disclose or suggest communication mode activity information that describes a use of each one of a plurality of different communication software applications by a remote computer system user, the plurality of different communication software applications including an electronic mail application, an internet protocol phone application, an electronic meeting application, and an awareness server application, wherein the communication mode activity information includes indications of actions performed by the remote computer system user, wherein the actions include printing and saving at least one electronic mail message and at least one attachment to said electronic mail message, and presenting the communication mode activity information regarding the remote computer system user, wherein the presenting includes displaying a plurality of icons, each one of the plurality of icons representing a

corresponding one of the plurality of different communication software applications, and displaying only communication mode activity information associated with one of the communication software applications responsive to detecting the local computer system user hovering a cursor over one of the plurality of icons corresponding to the one of said communication software applications, as in the present independent claim 1, from which claim 6 depends. These shortcomings in the disclosures of Curbow et al. and Knox et al. are not remedied by the addition of Rockey et al. Rockey et al. discloses a method and system of managing a submittal approval process by granting access to an internet-based system to a set of users, permitting a user to upload a submittal to the system, recording the uploading of the submittal in a log accessible by the users, automatically issuing a notice of the uploading of the submittal to other users, providing access to the submittal to other users and permitting the other users to review, approve, reject, revise, or comment on the submittal, recording the actions of the other users in the log, automatically issuing a notice of a user's actions to other users on the system, and generating a report of the log at the request of a user. However, like Curbow et al. and Knox et al., Rockey et al. includes no teaching or suggestion of communication mode activity information that describes a use of each one of a plurality of different communication software applications by a remote computer system user, the plurality of different communication software applications including an electronic mail application, an internet protocol phone application, an electronic meeting application, and an awareness server application, wherein the communication mode activity information includes indications of actions performed by the remote computer system user, wherein the actions include printing and saving at least one electronic mail message and at least one attachment to said electronic mail message, and presenting the communication mode activity information regarding the remote computer system

user, wherein the presenting includes displaying a plurality of icons, each one of the plurality of icons representing a corresponding one of the plurality of different communication software applications, and displaying only communication mode activity information associated with one of the communication software applications responsive to detecting the local computer system user hovering a cursor over one of the plurality of icons corresponding to the one of said communication software applications.

For the above reasons, Applicants respectfully urge that the combination of Curbow et al., Knox et al., and Rockey et al. does not support a *prima facie* case of obviousness with regard to the present independent claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 103, and that dependent claim 6 is patentable over the combination of Curbow et al., Knox et al., and Rockey et al. for at least the same reasons.

Dependent claims 8-10 also stand rejected for obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103, based on the combination of Curbow et al. and Knox et al. with United States patent number 6,697,840 of Godefroid et al. ("Godefroid et al."). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

As discussed above with reference to the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102, the teachings of Curbow et al. and Knox et al. do not disclose or suggest communication mode activity information that describes a use of each one of a plurality of different communication software applications by a remote computer system user, the plurality of different communication software applications including an electronic mail application, an internet protocol phone application, an electronic meeting application, and an awareness server application, wherein the communication mode activity information includes indications of actions performed by the remote computer system user, wherein the actions include printing and saving at least one electronic mail message and at least one attachment to said electronic mail message, and presenting the communication

mode activity information regarding the remote computer system user, wherein the presenting includes displaying a plurality of icons, each one of the plurality of icons representing a corresponding one of the plurality of different communication software applications, and displaying only communication mode activity information associated with one of the communication software applications responsive to detecting the local computer system user hovering a cursor over one of the plurality of icons corresponding to the one of said communication software applications, as in the present independent claim 1, from which claims 8-10 depend. These shortcomings in the disclosures of Curbow et al. and Knox et al. are not remedied by the addition of Godefroid et al. Godefroid et al. disclose a collaborative system that enables a user to set presence awareness policies, and that provides a reasonably high assurance that the system will correctly implement those policies. However, like Curbow et al. and Knox et al., Godefroid et al. includes no teaching or suggestion of communication mode activity information that describes a use of each one of a plurality of different communication software applications by a remote computer system user, the plurality of different communication software applications including an electronic mail application, an internet protocol phone application, an electronic meeting application, and an awareness server application, wherein the communication mode activity information includes indications of actions performed by the remote computer system user, wherein the actions include printing and saving at least one electronic mail message and at least one attachment to said electronic mail message, and presenting the communication mode activity information regarding the remote computer system user, wherein the presenting includes displaying a plurality of icons, each one of the plurality of icons representing a corresponding one of the plurality of different communication software applications, and displaying only communication mode activity information associated with one of the

communication software applications responsive to detecting the local computer system user hovering a cursor over one of the plurality of icons corresponding to the one of said communication software applications.

For the above reasons, Applicants respectfully urge that the combination of Curbow et al., Knox et al. and Godefroid et al. does not support a *prima facie* case of obviousness with regard to the present independent claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 103, and that dependent claims 8-10 are patentable over the combination of Curbow et al., Knox et al. and Godefroid et al. for at least the same reasons.

Reconsideration of all pending claims is respectfully requested.

Applicants have cancelled claims and amended claims. Applicants are not conceding in this application that unamended claims are not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner, as the present claim amendments are only for facilitating expeditious prosecution of allowable subject matter. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue the unamended claims in one or more continuations and/or divisional patent applications.

Applicants have made a diligent effort to place the claims in condition for allowance. However, should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Applicants' Attorney at the number listed below so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

For these reasons, and in view of the above amendments, this application is now considered to be in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Date

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